

Minneapolis BAC Minutes
November 30, 2011, 4 PM – 6 PM
Room 333 Minneapolis City Hall

Members Present: Nick Mason, Jim Skoog, Billy Binder, Gary Nelson, Andrew Rankin, Hōkan, Bob Hain, Paul Frenz, Robin Garwood, Tom Leighton, Ethan Fawley, Sarah Stewart, Lisa Bender, Jennifer Ringold, Matthew Hendricks, Hope Johnson, Joshua Houdek, Bill Dooley, Roy Hallanger, Georgianna Yantos, Gina Mitteco, Brian Funk, Janice Gepner

Members Absent: Shaun Murphy, Peter Wagenius, Tim Larson, Richard Anderson (excused)

Others Present: Don Pflaum, David Peterson, Greg Sautter, Michelle Beaulieu, Chris Budel, Simon Blenski, Bill Lindeke, Diane Hofstede

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm and was chaired by Nick Mason. After member introductions, the Agenda was modified to add an update on the Implementation Plan. The amended Agenda and the Minutes were unanimously accepted.

Decisions

1. The BAC voted unanimously to have Public Works provide the BAC with more information, including cost and feasibility, on the projects on the following list, and to provide broad thinking on the two combined packages:

Summary of Projects Recommended for CLIC 2016-2020

Project(s)
1. Humboldt/Irving Bike Blvd/Greenway
2. "Filling Short Trail Gaps" such as: 45 th Av N, Lyndale Av S from I94 to 22 nd St, Hiawatha trail connections near Lake St.
3. "Bike Lane Package" such as: 42 nd St W, 46 th St, Dunwoody Av, Portland Av south of the creek, Excelsior & France, Lowry Av, 38 th Av S
4. Pleasant Ave Bike Blvd/Greenway plus a Pleasant Ave ramp to the Greenway
5. Oakland Ave Bike Blvd/Greenway OR Park and Portland Cycle Tracks
6. Cycle Track on 1 st Av Downtown
7. University of Minnesota area safety and access improvements
8. 37 th Ave N
9. 33 rd Ave N
10. 21 st Ave Bike Blvd
11. 10 th Ave from 24 th to 31 st St

2. We voted unanimously to postpone the next meeting to January 4 and for this meeting to be joint with the Pedestrian Advisory Committee.

Summaries of Discussions

1. Nick welcomed Gina Mitteco, our new representative from MnDOT. Hers is a new position within MnDOT, Pedestrian/Bike Coordinator.

2. **Update from** Don Pflaum. The City Council Transportation/Public Works Committee approved the Bike Master Plan **Implementation Plan** yesterday. The IP was well received by the council and we were praised for our work on it. Section 2 was taken out and sent to IGR for review. We were encouraged to work out our Complete Streets policy in a public/transparent fashion.

3. Mike Kennedy from Public Works couldn't make it to our meeting, so the discussion of city **snow removal policies** was led by Don. On street bike lanes are plowed with traffic lanes. The city tries to plow off street bike lanes within 24 hours of snowfall. The city doesn't plow if the snowfall is less than two inches. It was suggested that the city plow a few streets with bike lanes really well. Complaints about city snow removal should be referred to the Engineering Subcommittee.

4. Matthew Hendricks presented a report from the Engineering/Evaluation/Equity Subcommittee. We asked for two things on the **Lowry Bridge**: slip ramps for cyclists who choose to use the sidewalk and bike lanes on the street. Hennepin County recently committed to adding 5 foot bike lanes. We are still working on getting the slip ramps. Matthew expects to set up a meeting with County staff as a next step. Kudos to Matthew and the Subcommittee for their work on this. The next Subcommittee meeting will probably be in January.

5. Jim Skoog presented a report from the Education/Encouragement/Enforcement Subcommittee.

a) Discussion continues on the issue of a good east/west bicycle route on the U of M campus as an alternative to the **Scholar's Walk**. There was an open meeting with Steve Sanders of the U of M on November 14 and a dialog with him is ongoing. Steve Sanders has committed to convene a task force on this issue in January, and also to improve wayfinding signage and bike map consistency at the U. Bob Hain and Hōkan are BAC liasons with the U of M Bicycle Advisory Committee.

b) The Subcommittee discussed complaints about cars **blocking Crosswalks**. The BAC January 4th meeting will be joint with the Pedestrian Advisory Committee and we can discuss this then.

c) There was a **fatality on West River Parkway** on November 12. A driver going fast in the wrong direction hit the cyclist and was charged with vehicular homicide. The Bicycle Coalition put together a Memorial Ride.

d) David Peterson reported that **Bike Walk Ambassadors** have requested funding for another year and will know soon if it is approved.

e) All BAC members are invited to the **next Subcommittee meeting on December 15**, from 4 to 6 pm. It will be hosted by Gary Nelson at the 1st Precinct Station and the topic will be Enforcement.

In response to a question from Lisa, Don said it is city policy to give all schools all requested bicycle racks. Bill Dooley said there will be a webinar next week about encouraging low income and students of color to bike to school.

6. Sarah Stewart gave an update on two **Health Department grants** involving active transportation in obesity prevention. The first grant was joint with Hennepin County and they got about one quarter of the money requested. They will hear this week about a statewide SHIP grant, which was discussed at a previous BAC meeting. If the grant is approved, the city will have to develop a policy on converting low volume streets to greenways.

7. Matthew Hendricks led a discussion of **ranking projects for CLIC funding** for 2016-2020.
- The Engineering Subcommittee, taking feedback from BAC members as a starting point, put together a list of projects which were presented in order of the number of subcommittee votes they received. Two of the "projects," "Filling Short Trail Gaps" and "Bike Lanes" were combinations of projects that were lumped together for funding purposes.
 - Don said the list is just what Public Works needs to start from. They can bring the list back to BAC with more information on feasibility and cost.
 - Projects within the "Combined" categories don't need to be specified now. The projects included will depend on Opportunity Projects and will probably change by 2016.
 - CLIC proposal estimates are done in January.
 - People needed more information from Public Works to prioritize the list.
 - We voted to have Public Works come back to the BAC with more information on all of the projects on the list.

8. Nick reiterated the **BAC attendance policy**. He communicated with anyone who has missed at least two meetings. According to the By Laws, appointed members from the City Council and Park Board should not have three unexcused absences for a calendar year. Email Don or Nick if you need to be excused from a meeting. The policy for city staff BAC members is less clear but those members should also try to be present at all meetings and should send a substitute staff member if they have to miss a meeting of the full BAC. The Executive Committee will try to find out if there is a policy. A replacement for Tim Larson is needed and will be chosen from the people who previously applied to be BAC members.

9. **Announcements**

- Nick: We will work out a reapplication process by May for appointed BAC members.
 - We unanimously agreed that the next BAC meeting is rescheduled for January 4 and will be joint with the Pedestrian Advisory Committee.
 - All BAC members are invited to the Pedestrian Advisory Committee meeting next Wednesday and to the happy hour afterwards at 5:30 pm. The meeting is here in room 333.
 - Bob Hain: Phyllis Kahn came to the last Hennepin County Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting where the Conditional Yield issue was discussed. We should think about this.
 - Billy Binder: he asked Phyllis Kahn if she would support a 10-11-5-7 configuration on Central Avenue which is in her district. It's coming up as an Opportunity Project.
 - Robin Garwood: It is not legal for bikes to park on the new parking meter signs. There is the possibility that some of the signs can be made into bike racks.
 - Lisa Bender: MnDOT is updating their multimodal transportation plan. She will forward information on an upcoming public meeting on this when it is available.
 - Andrew Rankin: Downtown TMO is moving forward with the Zap program he presented to the BAC in May. They have secured funding and several other partners. There will be a similar program in downtown St. Paul and at the U of M.
 - Next Engineering Subcommittee meeting will probably be the third Tuesday in January.
- The meeting was adjourned at 6:01 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Janice Gepner.
send comments to [janice.gepner\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:janice.gepner[at]gmail.com)